

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 038480

63

ORIGIN NEA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 /021 R

66612

DRAFTED BY:NEA/ARP:PDMOLINEAUX

APIROVED BY:NEA/ARP:FMDICKMAN

----- 118076

R 202002Z FEB 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

S E C R E T STATE 038480

LIMDIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT MUSCAT 0170 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO AMMAN
DATED 9 FEBRUARY 1975:

QTE

S E C R E T MUSCAT 170

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS, JO, MU

SUBJECT: JORDANIAN MILITARY AID TO OMAN

REF: AMMAN 454; USDAO AMMAN 301205Z JAN 75 AND 061036Z FEB 75

1. FONMIN ZAWAWI HAS TOLD US IN CONFIDENCE HE EXPECTS JORDANIAN
CGS, LTG ZAYD BIN SHAKER, HERE AS EARLY AS FEB. 9. HE
EXPECTS BIN SHAKER WILL GO ON TO DHOFAR ALMOST IMMEDIATELY
FOR MEETING WITH SULTAN AND FIRST-HAND LOOK AT SITUATION.

2. WE HAVE FOL INITIAL COMMENTS ON APPARENT INCREASING SCALE
OF JORDANIAN INVOLVEMENT.

A. UNQUESTIONABLY THESE ARE SEVERAL REASONS FOR QABOOS

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 038480

TO FAVOR GREATER JORDANIAN MILITARY ROLE IN HIS COUNTRY. SUCH

INCREASED ARAB SUPPORT FOR HIS WAR TO DEFEAT DHOFAR GUERRILLAS AND PFLO DILUTES THE HEAVY IRANIAN MILITARY PROFILE, WHICH HELPS POLITICALLY IN ARAB CIRCLES. SULTAN ADMIRES HUSSEIN PERSONALLY, AS WELL AS GENERAL IMAGE OF JORDAN ARAB ARMY AS EFFECTIVE FIGHTING FORCE. HE MAY FEEL, OR MAY HAVE BEEN CONVINCED BY ONE OR ANOTHER OF HIS PRIVATE ADVISERS, THAT HAWKER HUNTERS, THOUGH AN AGING NON-PRESTIGE AIRCRAFT, ARE EXACTLY THE TYPE THAT CAN BE MOST USEFUL IN SUPPORTING GROUND EFFORTS OF SAF AND ALLIED FORCES IN REMAINING WESTERN THEATRE OF DHOFAR WAS. (USG CAN WELL ASSOCIATE ITSELF WITH ALL THESE REASONS, FOR EVEN ADMITTING THIS EMBASSY'S LACK OF MILITARY EXPERTISE, HUNTERS WOULD SEEM MORE SUITED TO GUERRILLA WARFARE ROLE, IF PILOTS AND SPARES CAN BE FOUND, THAN WOULD SOPHISTICATED BRITISH JAGUARS WHICH IN ANY EVENT WON'T BE DELIVERED FOR SOME TIME.)

B. APPEARS TO US, HOWEVER, THAT QABOOS IS COURTING TROUBLE IN GOING SO FAR WITH JORDANIANS WHILE KEEPING BRITISH IN THE DARK OR TRYING TO. IT IS UNREALISTIC TO THINK NEWS OF HAWKER HUNTER TRANSACTION CAN BE KEPT FROM BRITISH UNTIL HUNTERS LITERALLY SHOW UP AT THE AIRPORT. BRITS ARE SIMPLY TOO WELL ENTRENCHED IN OMANI MILITARY ESTABLISHMENT NOT TO KNOW WHAT IS HAPPENING. AT THE VERY LEAST, SULTAN MAY BE GIVING JORDANIANS TOO MUCH CREDIT FOR THEIR PERSONNEL RESOURCES AND CAPABILITY TO ASSIST HIS OWN AIR FORCE. WOULD SEEM FROM HERE MUCH WISER FOR SULTAN AND OMANGOV TO DEAL OPENLY WITH BRITS ON MATTERS SUCH AS THIS. WHILE SULTAN MAY WELL SUSPECT BRITISH ARE STRETCHING OUT THE WAR IN DHOFAR (AND CERTAINLY SOME OF THE WESTERN NEWS CORRESPONDENTS WHO HAVE MADE ON-THE-SPOT ASSESSMENTS HERE IN RECENT WEEKS WOULD TEND TO SUPPORT SUCH A THEORY) HE NONETHELESS REMAINS HEAVILY DEPENDENT ON THEIR SECONDED MILITARY PERSONNEL, CONTRACTED EX-BRITISH SOLDIERS, AND CONTRACTED BRITISH FIRMS IN ALMOST ALL ORGANIZATIONAL AND OPERATIONAL PHASES OF MILITARY, SECURITY AND DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY IN DHOFAR AND INDEED ALL OF OMAN, AND WOULD RISK MUCH IN SEEMING TO DISREGARD THIS ESSENTIAL UNDERPINNING OF HIS REGIME.

C. PRESENT TOW MISSILE IN-COUNTRY TRAINING EXERCISE AND CONCURRENT DISCUSSIONS RE OBTAINING FOLLOW-ON SPARES AND
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 038480

TRAINING SHOULD BE OBJECT LESSON IN DIFFICULT IF NOT IMPOSSIBLE TASK OMANIS WILL FACE AS A PRACTICAL MATTER IN TRYING TO EXCLUDE BRITS FROM INVOLVEMENT IN EACH STAGE OF MILITARY UPGRADING AND AUGMENTATION.

3. RECOMMEND DEPT REPEAT THIS CABLE TO JIDDA, LONDON AND TEHRAN. WOLLE UNQTE KISSINGER

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY ASSISTANCE, FIGHTER AIRCRAFT, COMBAT OPERATIONS, MILITARY CAPABILITIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE038480
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: NEA/ARP:PDMOLINEAUX
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750061-0980
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750226/aaaaaxpq.tel
Line Count: 114
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: 75 AMMAN 454, 75 USDAO AMMAN 301205Z, 75 JAN 75, 75 AND 061036Z, 75 FEB 75
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <01 JUL 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <12 NOV 2003 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: JORDANIAN MILITARY AID TO OMAN
TAGS: MOPS, MASS, JO, MU, UK
To: JIDDA
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006